<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please cancel Claims 3, 7, 9, 12 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter and amend the claims as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing method in an information processing apparatus, which ~~can generate~~ <u>generates</u> an object <u>in a virtual space</u> and <u>is</u> ~~can be~~ connected to another information processing apparatus through a network to <u>share the virtual space,</u> ~~form a distributed processing system, characterized by~~ <u>the method</u> comprising:

an acquisition step of acquiring unique information from the other information processing apparatus<u>, wherein the unique information uniquely identifies the information processing apparatus on the network</u>; ~~and~~

an identification information generation step of~~, in generating an object,~~ generating identification information of ~~the~~ <u>an</u> object ~~by using~~ <u>based on</u> the unique information<u>, wherein the object is identified by the identification information in the information processing apparatus; and</u>

<u>a transmitting step of transmitting the identification information to the other information processing apparatus through the network</u>.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ <u>wherein</u> the other information processing apparatus<u>,</u> from which the unique information is acquired<u>,</u> is a management information processing apparatus which manages

~~pieces of~~ the unique information of all information processing apparatuses that share the virtual space ~~form the distributed processing system~~.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

a reception step of receiving object information about an object processed by the other information processing apparatus, and

an object processing step of executing the same type of object processing on the object as that of the other information processing apparatus on the basis of the ~~received object~~ information received by the reception step.

5. (Currently Amended) An information processing method in a management information processing apparatus, the management information apparatus managing ~~which manages~~ information processing apparatuses which share a virtual space, ~~included in a distributed processing system, characterized by~~ the method comprising:

a unique information ~~assigning~~ determining step of determining ~~assigning~~ unique information for [[to]] each of the information processing apparatuses, wherein the unique information is different from each other;

a sending step of sending the unique information determined in the determining step for each of the information processing apparatus to the corresponding one of the information processing apparatuses; and

a ~~notification~~ <u>receiving</u> step of ~~sending~~ <u>receiving object</u> information about an object ~~received~~ <u>output</u> from one of the information processing apparatuses<u>, wherein the object information includes identification information which is generated, based on the sent unique information, by the information processing apparatus from which the object is output</u> ~~to the remaining information processing apparatuses~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising an object processing [[sep]] <u>step</u> of executing the same object processing as that of one of the information processing apparatuses<u>,</u> on the basis of the <u>received object</u> information ~~about the object~~.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) A computer<u>-readable storage medium on which is stored a computer-executable</u> program which causes a computer apparatus to execute an information processing method ~~of claim 1~~ <u>which generates an object in a virtual space, the computer apparatus being connected to another information processing apparatus through a network to share the virtual space, the method comprising:</u>

<u>an acquisition step of acquiring unique information from the other information processing apparatus, wherein the unique information uniquely identifies the information processing apparatus on the network;</u>

an identification information generation step of generating identification information of an object based on the unique information, wherein the object is identified by the identification information in the information processing apparatus; and

a transmitting step of transmitting the identification information to the other information processing apparatus through the network.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus which ~~can~~ generates an object in a virtual space and is ~~can be~~ connected to another information processing apparatus through a network to share the virtual space, ~~form a distributed processing system, characterized by~~ the apparatus comprising:

an acquisition unit ~~adapted to~~ that acquires unique information from the other information processing apparatus, wherein the unique information uniquely identifies the information processing apparatus on the network; ~~and~~

an identification information generation unit ~~adapted to, in generating an object, that~~ generates identification information of ~~the~~ an object ~~by using~~ based on the unique information, wherein the object is identified by the identification information in the information processing apparatus; and

a transmitting unit that transmits the identification information to the other information processing apparatus through the network.

11. (Currently Amended) A management information processing apparatus ~~which~~ that manages information processing apparatuses which share a virtual space, ~~included in a distributed processing system, characterized by~~ the management information processing apparatus comprising:

a unique information ~~assigning~~ determination unit ~~adapted to~~ that determines ~~assign~~ unique information ~~to~~ for each of the information processing apparatuses, wherein the unique information is different from each other;

a sending unit that sends each of the unique information determined by the determination unit for each of the information processing apparatus to the corresponding one of the information processing apparatuses; and

~~notification~~ a receiving unit ~~adapted to send~~ that receives information about an object ~~received~~ output from one of the information processing apparatuses, wherein the object information includes identification information which is generated, based on the sent unique information, by the information processing apparatus from which the object is output ~~to the remaining information processing apparatuses~~.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) An ~~distributed~~ information processing system ~~characterized by~~ comprising:

a plurality of information processing apparatuses[[,]] connected through a network to share a virtual space, each ~~of the~~ information processing apparatuses comprising:

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an acquisition unit ~~adapted to~~ that acquires unique information from ~~another~~ management information processing apparatus connected through the [[a]] network, wherein the unique information uniquely identifies the information processing apparatuses on the network;[[,]]

an object generation unit ~~adapted to~~ that generates an object in the virtual space;[[,]] ~~and~~

an identification information generation unit ~~adapted to, in generating the object,~~ that generates identification information of ~~the~~ an object ~~by using~~ based on the unique information, wherein the object is identified by the identification information in the information processing apparatus;[[,]] and

a transmitting unit that transmits the identification information to the management information processing apparatus through the network; and

[[a]] the management information processing apparatus ~~which manages~~ managing the plurality of information processing apparatuses, the management information processing apparatus comprising:

a unique information ~~assigning~~ determination unit ~~adapted to~~ that determines ~~assign~~ unique information for [[to]] each of the plurality of information processing apparatuses;[[,]]

a sending unit that sends each of the unique information determined by the determination unit for each of the information processing apparatus to the corresponding one of the information processing apparatuses; and

~~notification~~ a receiving unit ~~adapted to send~~ that receives the object information about [[an]] the object ~~received~~ output from ~~one~~ each of the plurality of

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information processing apparatuses, wherein the object information includes the identification information ~~to the remaining information processing apparatuses~~.

14. (Canceled)